

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services - Forest Department - Public Services - Forest Department - Disciplinary action against Sri D. Chiranjeevi Rao, Forest Range Officer (Retd) formerly Pathapatnam Range, Srikakulam Division, Visakhapatnam Circle - Departmental proceedings under Rule 20 of the APCS (CC&A) Rules 1991 - Inquiry finalized and findings received - Imposition of penalty of 5% (five percent) cut in pension for a period of two (2) years - Show-Cause-Notice issued - Explanation received - Final orders - Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (SEC.IV) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 41

Dated:02-06-2015
Read the following:

- Ref:- 1) From the Prl. CCF, Lr. Ref. No.45490/2007/K1,Dt.06-07-2013.
2) Govt. Memo.No.5462/For.IV/A1/2013-1, Dt.4-11-2013.
3) From the Prl. CCF, Lr.Ref.No.45490/2007/K1,Dt.13-11-2013.
4) Govt. Memo.No.5462/For.IV/A1/2013-2, Dt.06-05-2014.
5) From the Prl. CCF, Lr.Rc.No.45490/2007/Vig-2,Dt.02-09-2014.
6) Govt. Lr. No.5462/For.IV/A1/2013,Dt:27-02-2015.
7) From the Secretary(FAC), APPSC, A.P., Hyderabad,
Lr.No.258/RT/3/2015, dt:16-05-2015.

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ORDER:

In the reference 1st read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P. Hyderabad has informed that, disciplinary action has been initiated against Sri D. Chiranjeevi Rao, Forest Range Officer, Under Rule 20 of APCS (CC&A) Rules, 1991 and an Article of Charges were issued by the Prl. CCF vide Ref.No.45490/2007/PXA3, Dt.26-01-2008 on the following count:-

Article-1:-

"That the said Sri D. Chiranjeevi Rao, Forest Range Officer, while working as Forest Range Officer, Pathapatnam Range of Srikakulam Division from 23-08-2001 to 8-07-2005 was also appointed as project Implementation Agency for the execution of works under IWDP-I in 22 VSSs in Pathapatnam Range has neglected his duties and committed that following grave irregularities and misconduct:

- (i) Responsible for grave objections and observations pointed out by the Audit for the years 1999-2000 and 2000-01 for an amount of Rs.13.66 lakhs in incurring expenditure in execution of works in (17) watersheds in Pathapatnam Range.
- (ii) Non-collection of watershed development fund of Rs.4,12,004/- during the years 1999-2000 and 2000-01.
- (iii) Non production of bills, estimates, M-books etc., to the Audit Party during the period of Audit.
- (iv) Responsible for incurring direct expenditure without depositing the amounts in the watershed accounts etc.
- (v) Responsible for deviation of the guidelines of watershed development programme.
- (vi) Responsible for releasing the funds to VSS by way of cash without maintaining any bank account.
- (vii) Responsible for confirming the expenditure under works and plantation on the basis of first and final bills without preparing M book and N.M.R. musters.

2. The Charged Officer acknowledged the Article of charges on 23.02.2008 and due to non submission of his defense statement within the stipulated time, the Chief Conservator of Forests, Visakhapatnam and Divisional Forest Officer, Srikakulam were appointed as Inquiry Officer and Presenting Officer respectively vide Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests Proc. No.45490/2007/PXA3(i)&(ii) dt:31.05.2008, for conducting inquiry.

P.T.O.

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3. The Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, has further stated that the Chief Conservator of Forests, Visakhapatnam completed the inquiry and submitted his findings vide his Ref.No.3554/03/M8, dt:30.07.2009 in which he has concluded that, out of (7) items (i) (iii) (iv) (vi) and (vii) items are proved against him. There is no Government loss in this case. The findings of the Inquiry Officer were communicated to the Charged Officer vide Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests Ref. No.45490/2007/K1, through Final Notice dt:30.09.2009. The Charged Officer acknowledged the final notice and submitted his defense statement on 29.11.2009.

4. Sri D. Chiranjeevi Rao, Forest Range Officer formerly Pathapatnam Range, Srikakulam Division, Visakhapatnam Circle has retired from service on attaining the age of superannuation on 31-08-2011. Hence the disciplinary proceedings are continued under Rule 9 of AP Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

5. Government, after careful examination of the matter, with reference to the findings of the Inquiry Officer, remarks of the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, and material made available, have observed that the charge framed against the Charged Officer is held proved and provisionally decided to impose a penalty of 5% cut in pension for a period of two years on the charged officer, Sri D. Chiranjeevi Rao, Forest Range Officer (Retd) formerly Pathapatnam Range, Srikakulam Division, Visakhapatnam Circle, under rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

6. Accordingly, a Show Cause Notice was issued to the retired charged officer vide ref. 4th read above. The Charged Officer submitted his explanation to the Show Cause Notice through the reference 5th read above in which no new facts has been put forth.

7. Government after careful examination of the matter hereby order to impose the penalty of 5% cut in pension for a period of two years on the charged officer, Sri D. Chiranjeevi Rao, Forest Range Officer (Retd) formerly Pathapatnam Range, Srikakulam Division, Visakhapatnam Circle, under rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

8. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P. Hyderabad is requested to take action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

ASHWINI KUMAR PARIDA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
The Individual (through Principal Chief Conservator of Forests).

Copy to:
The Accountant General (A&E) A.P., Hyderabad.
The Director of Treasuries & Accounts, Hyderabad, A.P.
The Secretary(FAC), A.P. Public Service Commission, Hyderabad
(with ref. to Lr. No. 258/RT/3/2015, dt:16-05-2015.)
Sf./Sc.

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER